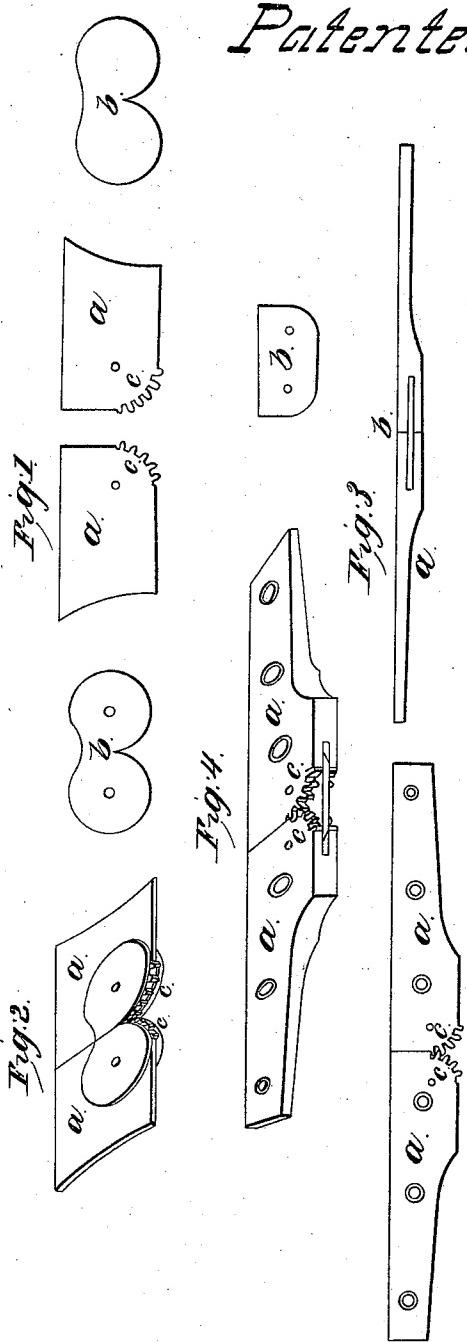


E. Hedge,

Hinge.

N^o 473.

Patented Nov. 23, 1837



witnesses:

Melvin Copeland.
Enoch Gaines.

Inventor:

Egbert Hedge

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EGBERT HEDGE, OF HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT.

MODE OF CONSTRUCTING DOUBLE-CENTERED JOINTS, BUTTS, OR HINGES.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 473, dated November 23, 1837.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EGBERT HEDGE, of Hartford, in the county of Hartford and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Double-Centered Joints, Butts, or Hinges; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description.

The nature of my invention consists in so modifying the double centered joint, butt or hinge, by means of cogs or teeth, as to reduce its action in turning upon or around its centers to the accuracy and certainty of single centered joints.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

As the purposes for which double centered joints have heretofore been used, or may hereafter, with my improvement be more advantageously used, are indefinite, I will describe it as it may be used for card table butts, (double centered joints having been long known and extensively used, for this purpose,) and as a joint for carpenters' rules, for which purpose it has been more recently used. The latter, being the purpose for which I intend using it, in my own business, will require the more particular description. I do not, however, intend by thus describing it, to relinquish my claim to the improvement, if used for other purposes.

The principle defect of the double centered joint, as heretofore used, consists in the vague and uncertain manner of their turning on their centers, in the process of opening and closing. For an instance, in opening the joint, if the turning upon one of its centers, happens, from any cause, to be easier than that of the other, it will turn on its easiest center, until it meets a barrier, before the turning upon its other center commences. To remove this uncertainty, I make use of cogs or teeth, formed on the quarter circular parts of the joints, shown at *c*, *c*, Figures 1, 2, 3 and 4, of the accompanying drawing. When intended for a card table butt, it usually consists of three distinct parts, viz: two equally shaped, but opposite parts or legs, *a*, *a*, Figs. 3 and 4, (on which the teeth are formed,) with countersunk holes, to receive the screws, by which it is attached to the leaves of the table.

These two parts are connected by a third piece, *b*, Fig. 3, by means of two rivets passing through them. These rivets also serve as centers, around which, the two first named parts turn. Divested of the teeth, the above described, would be precisely like the common card table butt. When used for the main, or center joint, for carpenters' rules, I usually construct it of four essential parts, or plates, connected together by two rivets. Two of the plates, called middle plates, on which the teeth are formed, are shaped as represented at *a*, *a*, Fig. 1. The other two plates, shaped as at *b*, Fig. 1, (or of any other convenient shape,) called the outside plates, are placed, one on each side of the middle plates, the rivets, passing through the corresponding holes, bring the teeth of the two middle plates, to interlock, or engage with each other. The teeth, thus engaged, compel the joint, in the process of opening and closing, to turn at all times equally upon each center, (which centers, are the two connecting rivets,) and also keep the parts of the joint in their due position, when the joint is at rest, either opened or closed, the teeth being never disengaged. This joint I usually attach to the rule, by inserting the parts of the middle plates *a*, *a*, Fig. 2, which project from the outside plates, in grooves formed in the legs of the rule, the ends of the legs being formed to fit to the outside plates. When inserted, I confine them in their places, by rivets, passing through the legs of the rule, and the middle plates of the joint. When used for the small joints, in four fold rules, they are usually constructed like the above described, for card table butts, only of the proper dimensions to fit the place in which they serve.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The use of cogs or teeth, in double centered joints, to insure the accurate and equal turning upon each center, in the process of opening and closing the joint, and to keep the parts of the joint in their due positions when at rest, either closed or opened, as above described.

EGBERT HEDGE.

Witnesses:

MELVIN COPELAND,
ENOCH GAINES.